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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,525	01/18/2002	Ronald J. Brandau	47176-00623USPT	7755

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EXAMINER

LE, HOANGANH T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2821

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/050,525

Applicant(s)

BRANDAU

Examiner

HOANGANH LE

Art Unit

2821



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Jan 18, 2002 is/are a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 5 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 2,5,8,12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 2,5,8,12, and 15, "said dielectric rod" has no antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Monte (the US Patent No. 5,109,232, cited by Applicant).

The Monte reference teaches in figures 1a and 1b a feed horn 10 comprising a horn portion 14 having an end aperture and an interior surface portion defining an exponential taper converging inwardly and an elongated dielectric rod portion 16 substantially centered with respect to the horn portions and having an elongated tapered end part extending in the direction of the horn aperture. The horn has a generally cylindrical metallic interior surface portion 18 which extends from the exponential taper and substantially encloses the tapered part of the dielectric rod 16, such that a free end of the rod is substantially coextensive with the plane of the aperture of the horn (figure 1b). The interior surface portion having an exponential taper converges inwardly to an input bore of the horn portion (figure 1b). The exponential taper begins and extends inwardly of the horn aperture, and wherein the dielectric rod tapered end part extends outwardly beyond the aperture (figure 1b). The dielectric rod tapered end part extends such that the horn portion is substantially in a radiation shadow of the dielectric rod (figure 1b).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, the limitations "the frequency range in from about 12 GHz to about 30 Ghz and the frequency range is from about 5 GHZ to about 7 Ghz" are merely intended use which fail to patentably distinguish the claims.

6. Claims 1,4-11, and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the DE 936,400 (cited by Applicant).

The DE 936,400 reference teaches in figure 1 a feed horn 1 comprising a horn portion 1 having an end aperture and an interior surface portion defining an exponential taper converging inwardly and an elongated dielectric rod portion 2 substantially centered with respect to the horn portions and having an elongated tapered end part extending in the direction of the horn aperture. The exponential taper begins and extends inwardly of the horn aperture, and wherein the dielectric rod tapered end part extends outwardly beyond the aperture (figure 2). The dielectric rod tapered end part extends such that the horn portion is substantially in a radiation shadow of the dielectric rod (figure 1).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, the limitations “the frequency range in from about 12 GHz to about 30 Ghz and the frequency range is from about 5 GHZ to about 7 Ghz” are merely intended use which fail to patentably distinguish the claims.

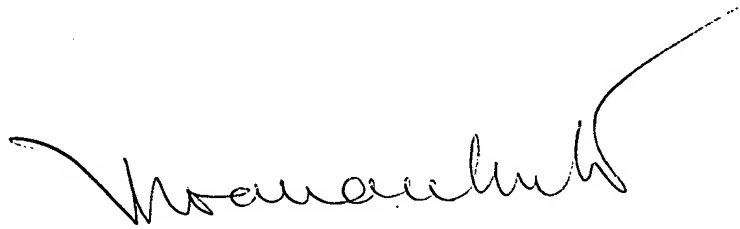
Correspondence

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Primary Examiner Hoanganh Le whose telephone number is (703) 308-4921.

8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

9. Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications only may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 or (703) 308-7724.

Hoanganh Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2821
March 6, 2003



Hoanganh Le
Primary Examiner